JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord-Carlisle School Committee Concord School Committee Conf. Room 4 & Zoom April 26, 2022

Present: Sara Wilson, Chair, CCSC

Cynthia Rainey, Chair, CSC; CCSC Courtland Booth, Vice Chair, CCSC; CSC Alexa Anderson, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC

Tracey Marano, CSC; CCSC

Eva Mostoufi, CCSC Carrie Rankin, CSC; CCSC

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD

Jared Stanton, Asst. Superintendent of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD Kristen Herbert, Asst. Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, CPS & CCRSD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Wilson called the CCSC meeting to order at 6:01 PM. Ms. Rainey then called the CSC meeting to order. Roll call attendance was taken: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Rankin, aye; Wilson, aye.

A. EXECUTIVE SESSION. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded Ms. Marano, by The Concord School Committee and Concord-Carlisle School Committee to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the CCHS tutors and CPS/CCHS bus drivers unions and return to Open Session at 6:30 PM. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Marano, aye (for both); Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye (for both); Rankin, aye (for both); Wilson, aye.

The Committees returned from Executive Session at 6:30 PM.

II. CCHS STUDENT UPDATE

Student reps Harry Crowley and Darcy Keenan-Mills provided an update from CCHS. They stated that students appreciated the no homework policy over the break, seniors are preparing for the AP tests, class government is planning a spring cleaning and a day of silence, student senate is planning a pop-up thrift store and rejection cranes/destination map, spring sports are going well, student senate completed a successful spirit week and the theater department is preparing for the spring musical, 42^{nd} Street.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

A. CCHS Spectrum Club. CCHS Spectrum Club students and advisors shared a presentation on the Spectrum Club, sharing history of the club, how it's raising awareness, information on the Day of Silence on April 29th, how it's helping to create a positive culture, events being held, and the partnership with CMS. The students stated that the Spectrum Club was awarded the Climate for Freedom Award by the Concord-Carlisle Human Rights Council, noting that it was the first student group to receive the award. The students thanked and recognized all of the supportive adults they have at CCHS.

V. READING OF THE MINUTES

A. Open Session 3/10/22, 3/22/22, 3/31/22, 4/5/22. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve the open session minutes from 3/10/22, 3/22/22, 3/31/22, 4/5/22. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Wilson stated that CCSC received a correspondence from the METCO Parents Collective and Ms. Rainey noted that there was an additional piece of correspondence from First Parish.

VII. CHAIRS & LIASIONS REPORT

Ms. Marano stated that she and Ms. Rankin attended the METCO Advisory meeting held in Boston, noting that they are hoping to schedule another meeting in the near future. She stated that the last DEI session was that same day, asking for feedback from the SC.

Ms. Mostoufi stated that she attended the SEPAC meeting, noting that the upcoming presentation at tonight's meeting was discussed. Ms. Anderson noted that the SEPAC Awards would be held May 5th.

Ms. Rainey stated that the Select Board voted unanimously in support of Article 18 affirmative action, noting that they are holding off on Article 19 until they hear the SC discussion.

Ms. Wilson stated that the Capital Article and Regional Budget passed in Carlisle.

Mr. Booth stated that Ms. Anderson and Ms. Rainey were recently re-elected to the SC. He stated that there was an event at CCHS supporting community service opportunities, thanking all involved for a successful event.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hunter highlighted sections of her report, including: transportation being added on the weekends for high school METCO students to attend athletic practices, elementary METCO families being surveyed for needs before school, METCO Inc. being highly engaged and committed to being participatory with the district, she is working on a statement to address the prohibition on the N word, and there is increased communication with the METCO families. Dr. Hunter stated that staff and students have now all moved into the new wing at Thoreau, thanking everyone involved. She noted that there are parking discussions around different options at Thoreau. Ms. Herbert spoke to choosing new social emotional curricula due to Open Circle no longer being available.

IX. DISCUSSION

- A. COVID Update. Dr. Hunter stated that they are watching COVID cases after vacation, seeing a national uptake and vacation impact. She noted a small event in one of the Kindergarten classes, noting that DESE is not allowing remote options. She stated that the state has been quiet on the testing program, but has noted that the program would be extended past April.
- B. Special Education Update. Interim Director of Student Services, Debbie Dixson, provided an update on Special Education, reviewing: an overview of inclusion, the responsibility of student services, continuing work on the WestEd Report recommendations, language-based programs, Special Education student headcount numbers by school and placement data as of March 1, 2022, student numbers by disability category and initial evaluation requests, Special Education translation/interpreter services requests, 504 Accommodation plans, the difference between Section 504 and Special Education, the process for evaluating 504 eligibility, March 1, 2022 504 Plan student data, DESE updates, annual Special Education determination, and the positive impact of implementing DocuSign.
- C. Sustainability in the Curriculum. Kristen Herbert introduced Allison Forseter, Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, Carrie Bjerke, Middle School Science Coordinator, and Mike Vella, CCHS Science Department Chair. Ms. Herbert shared the three ways sustainability is taught in the district and provided information on state and national standards. Ms. Forseter shared the PreK-3 science curriculum, including samples of curriculum by grade level that expose students to concepts of conservation and sustainability. She then reviewed Grade 4 curriculum around energy conservation, alternative sources of energy, renewable vs. nonrenewable resources and Grade 5 curriculum around the interaction of the atmosphere, hydrosphere and geosphere. She then reviewed the sustainability standards for Grade 5. Ms. Bjerke reviewed the CMS curriculum: Grade 6 earth history, plate tectonics, diversity of life; Grade 7 energy and electromagnetic force, populations and ecosystems, weather and water; Grade 8 chemical interactions, planetary science, heredity & adaptation and critical thinking. Ms. Bjerke shared information on enrichment activities. Mr. Vela reviewed the curriculum: Grade 9 Planet Earth including carbon footprints, climate myths, greenhouse effect; Grades 10, 11, 12 Biology, ecology, and ecosystems. He then reviewed the content in AP Environmental Science and provided examples of student projects.

X. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

XI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve Transportation Contract. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, for CSC, seconded by Ms. Anderson, for CSC, to approve the Concord/Carlisle Support Staff Association/MTA Bus Drivers' Unit Three-year Successor Agreement for the period of 2022-2025. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, for CCSC, seconded by Ms. Anderson, for CCSC, to approve the Concord/Carlisle Support Staff Association/MTA Bus Drivers' Unit Three-year Successor Agreement for the period of 2022-2025. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. CCRSD ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to adjourn the CCSC meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the CCSC meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM.

XIII. DISCUSSION

- A. CMS Building Project Update. Mr. Booth stated that the Design Subcommittee met prior to vacation week, noting that the presentation would be brought to the full committee meeting on Thursday morning. Dr. Hunter stated that she and Mr. Cameron have spent several hours with the design team and staff on the facilities and infrastructure, noting the great energy around the work.
- B. CPS Capital Plan. Dr. Hunter stated that, based on community feedback on the boiler replacement at Alcott, she recommended reallocating the \$350,000 for FY23 in the work at Ripley with the Green Communities grant. She stated that there is \$300,000-\$400,000 worth of electrical upgrades to do in order to take part in the grant. Dr. Hunter recommended using \$300,000 for Ripley electrical upgrades and \$50,000 to do a study to get answers to questions surrounding electric at the elementary schools. Mr. Booth thanked Dr. Hunter for revisiting this.

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Anderson, that the CPS FY23 Capital Plan be amended such that up to \$50,000 be allocated to a study for alternative energy approaches and \$300,000 be allocated toward the Ripley upgrades required for subsequent green community initiatives and heat source pump installations. The motion was unanimously approved.

XIV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Surplus Desks. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to declare 310 elementary school desks located at the Alcott, Thoreau, and Willard elementary schools as surplus supplies. The motion was unanimously approved.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Marano. The motion was unanimously approved and the CSC meeting adjourned at 9:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 5.24.22

Abbreviations:

CCHS Concord-Carlisle High School

CCRSD Concord-Carlisle Regional School District

CCSC Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee

CCTA Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association
CDC Center for Disease Control & Prevention

CEF Concord Education Fund CMS Concord Middle School

CMSBC Concord Middle School Building Committee
COAR Communities Organizing Against Racism

CPS Concord Public Schools
CSC Concord School Committee
E&D Excess and Deficiency

DEI Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
DPH Department of Public Health
ELL English Language Learner

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

FINCOM Finance Committee

IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

JSA Junior State of America
LLI Leveled Literacy Intervention
OPEB Other Post-Employment Benefits
MTSS Multi-Tiered System of Support
PD Professional Development
RTI Response to Intervention

SC School Committee

SEPAC Special Education Parent Advisory Council